

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting

Tom Ridge Environmental Center at Presque Isle

www.trecpi.org

Erie, Pennsylvania

May 8-10, 2007

Draft Agenda (As of 05/01/07)

May 8, 2007 - Tuesday

12:30 – 1:00 Registration

1:00 – 1:20 (#1) Welcome, Introductions, Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes

Mamie Parker, Assistant Director for Fisheries and Habitat Conservation, USFWS

1:20 – 1:40 (#2) Committee Reports / Recommendations

(1) *Control Committee (Jonathan McKnight / Maryland DNR)*

It was originally proposed the Control Committee would provide oversight and guidance in the development of new national/regional ANS plans, monitor the implementation of established plans, and coordinate with the other ANSTF standing committees. The implementation working group for each plan would inform the Control Committee of research, monitoring, and public outreach needs, and these would be communicated to the ANSTF and respective committee for appropriate action. The Control Committee would also recommend a review and revision process for all ANSTF-approved plans so that they could evolve.

While it exists on paper, to date a committee has not been formally established. Jonathan McKnight, will report on his efforts to assess the status of implementation of the five ANSTF approved management/control plans and suggested next steps.

THE ANSTF NEEDS TO DECIDE AND HOW IT WOULD LIKE TO TRACK THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROVED PLANS AND HOW IT WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED WITH STANDING UP A CONTROL COMMITTEE.

1:40 – 2:10 (#3) Regional Panel Reports / Recommendations

Regional panels are provided an opportunity to present emerging issues/concerns at the regional level and associated recommendations to the ANSTF.

2:10 – 2:30 (#4) New Zealand Mud Snail Management and Control Plan

Tina Proctor, USFWS

The purpose of this National Management and Control Plan is to guide the ANSTF and other interested parties in managing the New Zealand mudsnails already present in U.S. waters as well as to prevent and delay the spread of NZ mudsnails to new areas.

On May 24, 2006, the ANSTF approved publishing the Plan for public comment. The Federal Register of October 19, 2006 notified the public of the availability of the document and requested comments on it. The comment period ended December 4, 2006 and this Final Draft incorporates the comments received.

TINA PROCTOR WILL PRESENT THE PLAN IN ITS 'FINAL' FORM AND THE ANSTF WILL BE ASKED TO APPROVE THE PLAN.

3:00 – 3:30 BREAK

3:30 – 3:50 (#5) Maritime Administration Reserve Fleet Ships

Carolyn Junemann, MARAD

Congress requires the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to dispose of all vessels in the National Defense Reserve Fleet that are not assigned to the Ready Reserve Force or otherwise designated for a specific purpose. MARAD believes that recycling these vessels remains the most responsible course of action, both environmentally and fiscally. State officials in California and Texas, as well as those in the National Marine Fisheries Service have raised questions re. the hull cleaning aspects the recycling operation.

MARAD will provide background and an overview of the current situation and coordinated efforts of interested parties.

3:50 – 4:20 (#6) Zebra/Quagga Mussel Response in Colorado River

Jeff Herod / Bob Pitman, USFWS

Quagga mussels have been confirmed in the lower Colorado River, impacting Arizona, California and Nevada. A coordinated state/federal response is in place. The ANSTF will hear a brief background on the situation, status of the response and lessons learned to date.

4:20 – 5:00 (#7) Rapid Response Management

Dean Wilkinson, NOAA

Coordinated by NOAA, representatives of several federal agencies met intersessionally to follow up on the rapid response work started at the November 2006 ANSTF meeting. The recommendations of the group will be presented for further discussion and adoption by the ANSTF.

THE KEY RECOMMENDATION WILL BE THE FORMAL ADOPTION BY THE ANSTF OF THE ICS AS THE RESPONSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

(SEE RELATED MEMO ON MEETING WEBPAGE)

May 9, 2007 - Wednesday

8:00 – 8:30 Registration

(#8) State ANS Management Planning: Great Lakes Regional Perspectives

*This session will be moderated by the Great Lakes Commission based outcomes associated with the project, **A Collaborative Approach to Advance Implementation of State Management Plans for Prevention and Control of Aquatic Nuisance Species in the Great Lakes Region** as funded by the National Sea Grant College Program.*

This session will provide the opportunity to learn about ANS state management plan (SMP) activities based on state-specific workshops conducted in 6 of the Great Lakes states. The state presentations will focus on SMP priorities, implementation strategies and funding opportunities in efforts to advance collaboration on ANS state management planning in the Great Lakes region. The plenary session will provide the basis for discussion to develop recommendations on ANS state management planning for consideration by the ANSTF.

8:30 – 8:45 Welcome, Introduction, Agenda Overview

8:45 – 9:10 Regional Perspectives

Kathe Glasner-Shwayder, Great Lakes Commission

Erika Jensen, Great Lakes Commission Sea Grant Fellow

9:10 – 10:15 State Presentations

Progress in Wisconsin on the State Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan
(Phil Moy, Wisconsin Sea Grant)

Progress Towards a Comprehensive Invasive Species State Management Plan for Minnesota
(Doug Jensen, University of Minnesota Sea Grant)

Pennsylvania AIS State Management Plan in the Context of a State Invasive Species Council
(Jim Grazio, Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection)

10:15 – 10:30 BREAK

10:30 – 11:30 State Presentations (continued)

Invasive Species Regulation in Michigan: Stakeholders Workshop
(Carol Swinehart, Michigan Sea Grant)

Indiana Digs into the Aquatic Plant Trade
*(Doug Keller, Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources
Kristin TePas, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant)*

Development of Ohio's Rapid Response Plan for ANS
*John Navarro, ODNR Division of Wildlife
Eugene Braig, Ohio Sea Grant College Program)*

11:30 – 12:15 Common Themes from Great Lakes SMP Workshops in Building a Framework for Regional ANS Management

Kathe Glasner-Shwayder, Great Lakes Commission

Erika Jensen, Great Lakes Commission Sea Grant Fellow

12:15 – 1:15 LUNCH (*on your own – boxed lunch available for purchase in advance*)

1:15 – 1:30 Afternoon agenda review

1:30 – 2:30 Breakout Sessions

(see Enclousre (1) for focusing questions)

2:30 – 3:15 Report to Plenary

3:15 – 3:30 BREAK

3:30 – 4:15 Breakout Sessions (cont.)

4:15 – 4:45 Summary / Recommendations to ANSTF

4:45 – 5:00 Next Steps / Wrap Up

5:00 ADJOURN FOR DAY

May 10, 2007 - Thursday

8 – 8:30 Registration

8:30 – 8:50 (#9) Asian Carps Management and Control Plan

Greg Conover, USFWS

Availability of the draft plan was published in the Federal Register on October 24, and comments were due by December 26, 2006. The chair of the working group has requested an additional 2 months so minority views can be adequately expressed in the plan. The ANSTF will be briefed on the status of the revised plan; a summary of public comments; an overview of the revisions; a plan for addressing the outstanding issues; and a process/timeline for delivery of the plan to the ANSTF by mid-July.

THE ANSTF WILL DECIDE ON A PROCESS/TIMELINE FOR FINALIZATION OF PLAN.

8:50 – 9:20 (#10) Canal Barriers

Chuck Shea, Project Manager, Chicago District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Bill Howland, Lake Champlain Basin Program

While the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal (CSSC) is a well known potential vector for the movement of non-native species, the ANSTF wants to briefly explore whether there

are other areas in the country where canals are viewed threat. This item will include an update on the operational / funding / legislative picture of the CSSC; concerns with the Lake Champlain Canal; needs in other areas of country; possible approaches to address these.

9:20 – 10:00 (#11) Viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) in the Great Lakes

Ken Seeley, USDA-APHIS

Bill Culligan, Great Lakes Fisheries Section Head, NYSDEC - Bureau of Fisheries, Lake Erie Fisheries Unit

VHS is considered one of the primary diseases of fish worldwide and one of the most serious. VHS is in the Great Lakes and there are actions being taken at the federal and state levels to address it. The ANSTF wants to be knowledgeable on the status of these efforts, what is planned or proposed, and see if there's a role for the ANSTF to play in ensuring a coordinated response continues.

10:00 – 10:30 BREAK

10:30 – 11:30 (#12) Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC)

Mike Hoff, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fisheries Division, Region 3

The intent is to provide an overview of the collaborative process that was used to develop a wide range of recommendations, with the focus being on the Aquatic Invasive Species Strategy Team. The Great Lakes regional participants found the process valuable and that this collaborative mechanism could be used in other parts of the country.

11:30 – 11:40 Public Comment

11:40 – 12:00 Summary / Next Meeting

Review action items.

Discuss Fall 2007 ANSTF meeting – Washington, DC area..

The weeks of October 22 or 29th are offered for consideration.

12:00 ADJOURN MEETING

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting
ANS State Management Planning: Great Lakes Regional Perspectives

Break-out Session I: State ANS Management Planning

1. Identify the strategies (e.g. planning tools, stakeholder involvement, management practices) used by the Great Lakes states contributing to successful development and/or implementation of SMPs.
 - a. How can these strategies be communicated to other jurisdictions working on ANS management planning?
 - b. What can we learn from each other across jurisdictional lines (state, provincial, federal) regarding this SMP process?
2. Identify challenges in SMP development and implementation and strategize ways to address these challenges. *Please extend this discussion beyond 'insufficient funding.'*
3. If your state has received federal funding to implement an ANS SMP, how was the money put to use?
 - a. Which funded activities were of the greatest value in terms of accomplishing SMP goals/objectives?
 - b. If more resources were available, how could they best be utilized?
 - c. What guidelines can we recommend in terms of SMP funding allocation on a state and federal level?
4. The ANSTF has asked for perspectives on:
 - a. Are the current state management plan development and implementation guidelines useful? Outdated? Too prescriptive?
 - b. How should state management plans be apportioned? Equal shares for each plan? A larger share for new plans? Funded only for a set period of time?

Break-out Session II: Regional ANS Management

1. Based on the successes and challenges identified in the previous session, would it be beneficial and/or feasible to coordinate ANS management plans on a regional basis to address any broad-scale issues? Examples include of broad scale issues early detection/monitoring, rapid response, communication, funding, among others.
2. How can the ANS Task Force and Federal agency capabilities assist in the development or implementation of ANS management plans at the state and regional level? (e.g., communication, research, permitting issues, screening process)
3. How can the Regional ANS Panels work together with each other and the ANS Task Force to more effectively advance the SMP process?